



## Military Community and Family Policy Fact Sheet

### Data

- ✓ *The initiative has provided more than 64,000 YMCA memberships and more than 20,000 private fitness memberships to military families.*
- ✓ *More than 125,000 military children have benefited from the initiative.*
- ✓ *More than 1,500 YMCAs and more than 1,400 private fitness facilities support the ASYMCA Military Outreach Initiative.*

### Additional information

**Armed Services YMCA website**  
<http://www.asymca.org/programs/ymca-dod-military-outreach-initiative>

**Morale, Welfare and Recreation**  
<http://www.militaryonesource.mil/mwr>

**Family Readiness System**  
[http://www.militaryonesource.mil/search?content\\_id=266979](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/search?content_id=266979)

## Armed Services YMCA Military Outreach Initiative Extension

### Background

In 2008, the Department of Defense, in contract with the Armed Services YMCA, established the Military Outreach Initiative to enhance personal and family readiness. The initiative was intended to support geographically dispersed military service members and their families during periods of deployment and family separation, and that support continues. Originally scheduled to expire in 2014, the Department of Defense extended the end date to March 17, 2015. While policy makers continue to research alternative options and programs to support this demographic, the initiative will once again be extended one calendar year, now ending on March 17, 2016.

### Highlights

The initiative extension will:

- Support military families for an additional year while alternative options are explored, despite the drawdown of combat operations and funding
- Affect eligible participants, generally including families of deployed National Guard and reserve service members, active-duty members assigned to independent duty locations, relocated spouses of deployed active-duty personnel and members in community-based wounded transition units
- Offer uninterrupted access to fitness and child care programs for eligible members and families
- Allow eligible individuals to access the respite child care services and no-cost fitness access until March 17, 2016

